

AMENDMENTS TO THE DRAWINGS

Figures 1-5 are amended to include the label "PRIOR ART".

Attachment: 4 Replacement Sheets

REMARKS

Claims 1-6 are all the claims pending in the application.

Drawings

The Examiner has objected to Figures 1-5, asserting that these figures should be designated by a legend indicating only that which is old is illustrated. By this Amendment, Applicants have amended the figures to label FIGS. 1-4 as "RELATED ART". Accordingly, the Examiner is requested to remove the objection to the drawings.

Specification

By this Amendment, Applicants have amended the specification to correct minor editorial errors and to rename several section headings.

Claim Objections

The Examiner has objected to claims 2-6 for various informalities. Applicants submit that the noted informalities have been corrected and request withdrawal of the objection.

Claim Rejections - 35 U.S.C. § 103(a)

The Examiner has rejected claims 1-6 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as allegedly being unpatentable over alleged admitted prior art (hereinafter "APA") in view of Sayers ("Vehicle Models for RTS Applications," 1998, Mechanical Simulation Corporation). Applicants submit that the claims are patentable.

For example, claim 1 recites an integrated design system including a simulation controller and an interface connected to the simulation controller. The interface has functions of standardization of data definitions, standardization of formats, and high speed communication of data, converts files of an analysis tool of control system, an analysis tool of motor

electromagnetic field and an analysis tool of mechanism of vehicle into a readable common file, and produces an index array which explains a variable sequence. The simulation controller controls and manages entire sequence by calling sub-routines through said interface, and carries out an integrated simulation of an electric power steering apparatus.

The Examiner asserts that Sayer's interface hardware corresponds to the claimed interface (page 4 of Office Action). However, Sayer does not teach or suggest that the interface hardware has functions of standardization of data definitions, standardization of formats, and high speed communication of data, converts files of an analysis tool of control system, an analysis tool of motor electromagnetic field and an analysis tool of mechanism of vehicle into a readable common file, and produces an index array which explains a variable sequence. The Examiner alleges that APA's S-function performs these functions. However, APA merely discloses that S-function performs the exchange of data (paragraph 9) and thus does not cure the deficiencies of Sayer.

The Examiner also asserts that APA's bench simulator corresponds to the claimed simulation controller. However, APA merely discloses that the bench simulator evaluates performance or quality of products within the system (paragraph 6). APA does not teach a simulation controller which controls and manages entire sequence by calling sub-routines through said interface, and carries out an integrated simulation of an electric power steering apparatus. Sayer does not cure this deficiency.

Because APA and Sayer do not teach or suggest all of the features of claim 1, Applicants submit that the claims are patentable. Applicants further submit that claim 2, being dependent on claim 1, is patentable at least by virtue of its dependency.

Conclusion

In view of the above, reconsideration and allowance of this application are now believed to be in order, and such actions are hereby solicited. If any points remain in issue which the Examiner feels may be best resolved through a personal or telephone interview, the Examiner is kindly requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any overpayments to said Deposit Account.


Respectfully submitted,

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